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SENSITIVE

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SITUATION LISTING

DATE 06/29/83//180

SITUATION: LEB  
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EIA025  
OO RUEADWW  
DE RUEAIIA [REDACTED] 1101321  
ZNY SSSSS  
O 201321Z APR 83  
FM CIA

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BT  
S E C R E T NOFORN [REDACTED] WNINTEL  
CITE: CIA 537461  
SERIAL: [REDACTED]  
DIST: 20 APRIL 1983  
PASS: [REDACTED]

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PAGE 2 RUEAIIA [REDACTED] S E C R E T NOFORN [REDACTED] WNINTEL  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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-WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.  
REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WNINTEL--NOFORN-- [REDACTED]  
COUNTRY: LEBANON  
SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON BOMBING OF U.S. EMBASSY IN LEBANON  
[REDACTED]

(b)(3)

TEXT: 1. THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION (MUNZAMAT AL-JIHAD AL-ISLAMI) WHICH CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BOMBING OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIRUT IS MOST PROBABLY A SMALL GROUP OF LEBANESE SHI'A YOUTHS WHO OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE SHI'A AMAL ORGANIZATION OF NABIH ((BARI)), FROM LEBANESE SHI'A SPIRITUAL LEADER, SHAYKH MUHAMMAD MAHDI ((SHAMS-AL-DIN)) AND EVEN INDEPENDENTLY FROM SHI'A RADICAL  
PAGE 3 RUEAIIA [REDACTED] S E C R E T NOFORN [REDACTED] WNINTEL  
HUSAYN ((MUSAWI)). BECAUSE THE INVOLVEMENT OF A LARGE LEBANESE SHI'A GROUP SUCH AS MUSAWI'S MAY HAVE COMPROMISED

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THE OPERATION, IT IS THOUGHT THIS TYPE OF OPERATION COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY A SMALL, CLANDESTINE CELL OF SHI'A MUJAHIDEN. IN ITS TELEPHONE CALL TO THE AGENCY FRANCE PRESS, THE ISLAMIC JIHAD ORGANIZATION REFERRED TO THE BOMBINGS OF THE EMBASSY AS THE "WA AL-FAJR" OPERATION. THIS IS THE SAME NAME GIVEN TO THE MOST RECENT IRANIAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST IRAQ. THEREFORE, IT IS THOUGHT THE GROUP RESPONSIBLE IS PRO-IRANIAN. THE POSSIBILITY THE SMALL LEBANESE DA'WA PARTY LED BY SHAYKH MUHAMMAD SAYF ((FADALLAH)) CARRIED OUT THE OPERATION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE DISCOUNTED.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: THERE ARE NO HARD FACTS YET TO SUPPORT THE CLAIM THAT RADICAL LEBANESE SHI'A MIGHT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK.)

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2. LEBANESE SHI'A WHO ARE PRO-IRANIAN AND ANTI-IRAQI ARE THOUGHT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK ON THE U.S. MARINE PATROLS IN LATE MARCH SOUTH OF BEIRUT. IT IS NOT A COINCIDENCE THAT THE ONLY MULTINATIONAL FORCE (MNF) PATROLS PAGE 4 RUEAIIA [REDACTED] S E C R E T NOFORN [REDACTED] WNINTEL WHICH HAVE BEEN ATTACKED ARE AMERICAN AND FRENCH. THESE PRO-IRANIAN SHI'A ATTACKED A FRENCH MNF PATROL BECAUSE OF THE OFFICIAL FRENCH SUPPORT FOR IRAQ IN ITS WAR EFFORT AGAINST IRAN. [REDACTED] COMMENT: FRENCH ARMS SALES TO IRAQ ARE THE PRIMARY REASON PRO-IRANIAN LEBANESE SHI'A WOULD ATTACK THE FRENCH MNF CONTINGENT.)

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3. THERE IS NO SOLID EVIDENCE, BUT IT IS SUSPECTED THESE SMALL LEBANESE SHI'A GROUPS OBTAIN WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES FROM SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE TO ENABLE THEM TO CARRY OUT OPERATIONS AGAINST IRAQI INTERESTS IN LEBANON. THE EXPLOSIVES USED FOR THE DECEMBER 1981 BOMBING OF THE IRAQI EMBASSY IN BEIRUT WERE SUPPLIED BY THE SYRIANS AND THE OPERATION WAS CARRIED OUT BY THREE IRAQIS RECRUITED BY PRO-IRANIAN LEBANESE SHI'A.

4. THERE ARE SHI'A YOUTHS FROM SOUTH LEBANON WHO ARE COMMITTED MUSLIMS WILLING TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES IN A HOLY WAR (JIHAD) AGAINST ISLAM'S ENEMIES. THE APPARENT PAGE 5 RUEAIIA [REDACTED] S E C R E T NOFORN [REDACTED] WNINTEL SUICIDAL ATTACK AGAINST THE U.S. EMBASSY INDICATES THE INVOLVEMENT OF THIS TYPE OF DEDICATED SHI'A IN SUCH AN OPERATION.

(b)(3)

5. FUTURE TARGETS OF PRO-IRANIAN SHI'A ATTACKS IN BEIRUT COULD BE THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER AND THE U.S. ANNEXES IN BEIRUT WHICH ARE IDENTIFIED WITH THE UNITED STATES.

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WARNING: REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WARNING NOTICE-INTELLIGENCE  
SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN  
NATIONALS--

DECL: BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL  
PAGE 6 RUEAIIA S E C R E T NOFORN WNINTEL  
PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL  
DOCUMENT.

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